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The Good 5 Cent Cigar (10/14/2011)

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The Good 5¢ Cigar

THE UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1971

Volume 61
Issue 20

'Just what this country needs'
www.ramcigar.com

Friday
October 14, 2011

URI campus sustainability program shares benefits of environmentally friendly transportation options

BY JACQUELYN MOOREHEAD
News Reporter

The importance of a more environmentally friendly form of transportation was highlighted for students yesterday on the Quadrangle as part of the University of Rhode Island's sustainability program.

Hertz On Demand, the car rental program put in place by Student Senate last year, is associated with the sustainability program and set up an informational table to enlighten students about rental options.

Suzanne Sharkey, a member of last year's Student Senate and a current representative of the College of Business Administration, said Hertz and similar car rental programs are in place at other universities, but senate wanted to "deliver the benefits for URI."

Sharkey said a reason the

senate was enthusiastic about adding the rental program because it would help improve the flow of traffic on campus and reduce accidents.

The Hertz program allows students to reserve cars for rental use, with gas and insurance included. Sharkey added the cars come with 24-hour roadside assistance and GPS, features she said that are great for college road trips.

"We'd like to try to involve student organizations and get them involved so they can have a car they can all use together," Sharkey said. "So, group trips will be easier to manage."

As a promotion for this semester, students can sign up for the program at HertzOnDemand.com without any sign-up fees. Promotional hourly rates vary from \$5 to \$6 an hour, depending on the size of the vehicle.

Another tool displayed for students was the URI Transportation Center's interactive driving simulator.

The driving simulator is a transportable device, similar to an arcade-style driving game, but with larger screens surrounding the driver. It is used as a research tool for the Rhode Island Department of Transportation and URI's engineering department.

Laboratory Technician for Mechanical, Industrial and Systems Engineering David Ferreira explained that the simulator is used to place "cars" in scenarios, like poor weather, and see how the individual driver react to them.

"We build a scenario on what you want to see and study how people react," Ferreira said.

Ferreira jumped in the driving seat of the simulator, explaining that one can log

into the program's tailgating scenario to determine how a person reacts to tailgating, for example. As he drove 60 m.p.h. on a highway marked 65 m.p.h., a car visible in the rear-view drove close to his rear bumper. Then, information on his reaction was recorded on a nearby computer for analysis.

Campus Sustainability Officer Marsha Garcia said this was important in showing students how a number of factors affect gas mileage, including the environment and driving practices.

"It's important to see how driving decisions make an impact on how much gas you use," Garcia said. "Not speeding or driving aggressively can help reduce your mileage. You're going to use more gas if you have your foot on the accelerator."

Custodian passes away in Wiley Hall

BY HENSLEY CARRASCO
News Editor

A 53-year-old Wiley Hall custodial worker, Cynthia Spencer, was found passed away yesterday morning after her husband reported her whereabouts unknown.

Spencer was found in a custodial room yesterday morning, Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs and Director of Housing and Residential Life Chip Yensan said. He said the room Spencer was found in was one she frequently used as a break room. Yensan said her husband contacted the university directly and expressed "concern about her wellbeing and her whereabouts."

Officials began searching for her at 8 a.m. and it was then when a Wiley Hall staff member found her in the break room. According to Yensan, Spencer's shift begins at 7:30 a.m. and "normal[ly] ends at 4 [p.m.]." He said he did not know whether or not Spencer died this morning. The state medical examiner, who was immediately notified, is working on determining the time of death.

Yensan said information on the cause of death has "not [yet] been made available," but initial police reports "give no indication of foul play."

According to a statement released by Yensan, Spencer had been employed with dining services for four years prior to her employment with Housing and Residential Life in 2007. HRL staff, residents of Wiley Hall or other members of the URI community can meet with staff in the Counseling Center located in Roosevelt Hall to find comfort in talking about Spencer's passing.

Yensan added in the

Continued on page 3

Student forum sheds new light on domestic violence

BY FARAH CASALINI
News Reporter

At a Domestic Violence forum at the University of Rhode Island last night, Director for Violence Prevention and Advocacy Services Jennifer Longa Moio asked more than 50 students if they knew someone who has been affected by domestic violence. Nearly everyone raised their hand.

In honor of domestic violence month, the student group Ohuru SaSa hosted a forum in the Memorial Union to spread awareness about the effects of domestic violence and to inform students on what to do when they or a friend are affected.

Josue Garcia, a senior peer advocate who helped present the forum, told students that his past experiences with domestic violence led him to become involved in spreading awareness on campus and pursue peer advocacy.

Longa Moio, with her refreshingly honest demeanor,

told students in the beginning of the presentation that "anything goes," a philosophy she maintained throughout the forum.

For example, while explaining to students the timeline on which domestic violence usually occurs, she used a hypothetical situation where a woman punches a man in the face at the end of a first date.

This age group can make a difference.

**Jennifer Longa Moio,
Director for Violence Prevention and Advocacy Services**

"That's not domestic violence," she said. "That's a psycho chick."

However, while explaining the tough and emotional subject in a light-hearted manner, she also emphasized the gravity of domestic violence.

She told students 25 percent of women are victims of

domestic violence in their lifetime, but less than 3 percent of cases are reported to the authorities. She explained that domestic abuse happens in a cyclic pattern, therefore making it difficult for the victim to leave the situation.

"It is never the victim's fault," she said. "[The offender] hits because [the offender] chooses to."

She also discussed the different types of domestic violence. She said roommates and family members, by blood or marriage, can be charged with domestic violence, not just couples. She noted that a former URI student who lived off-campus was charged with domestic violence after she smashed a glass bottle over

her roommate's head.

She said the most important concept for students to take away from the forum is understanding the importance of being supportive of someone undergoing domestic violence.

"This age group can make a difference," she said.

Special Events Coordinator for Ohuru SaSa Kemi Badru, organized the event in hopes of students becoming more aware of the physical, psychological and emotional effects of domestic violence.

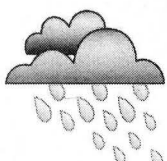
"[The forum] gives students the opportunity to learn about this issue," Ohuru SaSa Assistant Secretary Abiola Oladosu said.

Ohuru SaSa is a student organization that has been on campus for 39 years and is dedicated to uniting those who are interested in "Black unity, Black pride and Black awareness," according to the group's website.

The Good 5-Cent Cigar

Today's forecast
71 °F

Rain, rain, go away...



Nickel Brief:

Senator Sheldon Whitehouse is coming to campus—learn more about his visit in next week's issue of the Cigar!

A one-on-one chat with
URI's Athletic Director.

See page 4.

CAMPUS

'What's Your Number' minus the laughs, disappointing rom-com

BY EMILY PISANO

Contributing Entertainment Writer

Last Friday night, exhausted after a long week and in need of mindless entertainment, my friends and I piled into the car and went to see Anna Faris's new movie "What's Your Number."

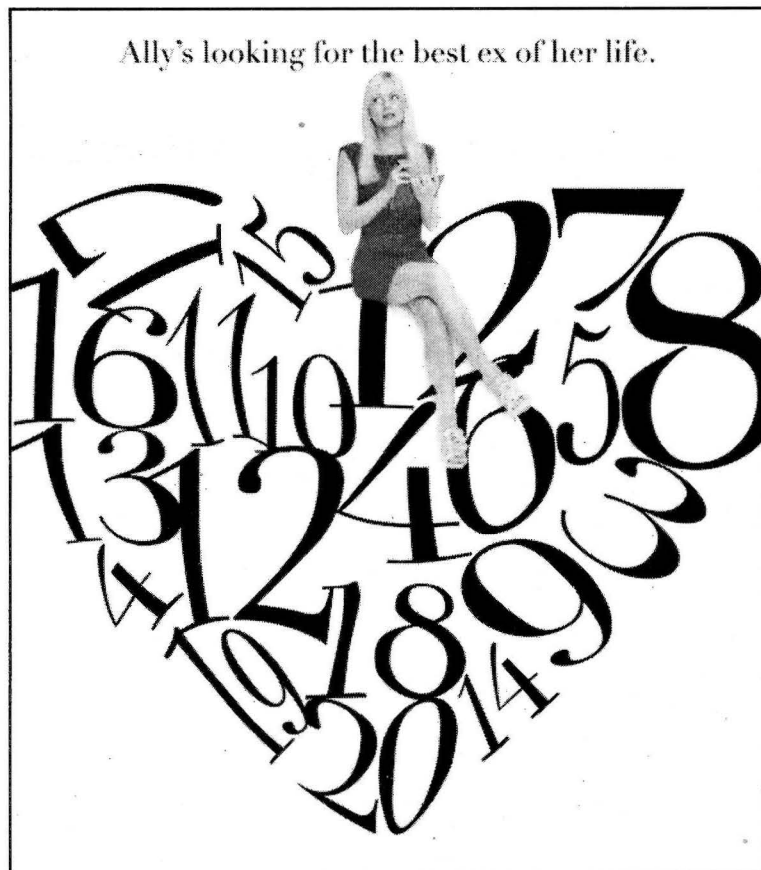
I have been a fan of Anna Faris since seeing her in "House Bunny" and the "Scary Movie" series. With her perfect one liners and hilarious physical comedy, she always has me laughing out loud.

I had extremely high hopes for her new movie, especially after laughing at all the trailers for it every time one came on television. As soon as the film's opening credits began to roll, blasting a typical bubbly little pop song, I made an immediate comparison to "How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days," one of my all-time favorite rom-coms.

The first scene shows Faris' character, Ally Darling, laying in bed with her latest boyfriend, but by the time the scene is over they have broken up and she is now single and dateless for her sister's wedding.

Shortly after the breakup Ally is fired from her job and on her way to her mother's, played by the fabulous Blythe Danner, for her sister's engagement party. On the way, she reads an article about the average number of men American women sleep with in their lifetime, which gets her thinking about all of the lovers she has had.

At the club with her sister and friends Ally reveals that she has slept with 19 people and vows that the 20th will be "the one." Ironically, her ex-boss who just fired her is at the same club and quickly



"What's Your Number's" Ally Darling, played by comedy veteran Anna Faris, looks to play love by the numbers—but there is no accounting for Chris Evans in a towel.

becomes Ally's 20th.

The next morning Ally wakes up next to her ex-boss, appalled, and enlists the help of her sexy neighbor Colin, played by Chris Evans, to help her track down all of her exes so she will not exceed 20.

Throughout the movie I laughed and smiled as Ally made a fool of herself trying to rekindle all her past relationships, but something was missing. Ally's screams and yells every time she falls down, lost their luster after about fifteen times; that one really memorable line or scene I was expecting never came.

On the other hand, Faris' costar was very memorable. Evans, appearing right off the bat in a towel ever-so-strategically placed, has you rooting for his character from the

beginning. I know I can speak for myself and my friends when I say all of us are looking forward to Evans' future movies.

Leaving the theater, I was slightly disappointed with the 106 minutes of mediocre comedy I had been really looking forward to. Hopefully Faris will test the waters and try other styles of movies. Might I suggest something Oscar worthy? Not only will she broaden her fan base, but she will allow current fans to really see her range. Even though the movie was not the best, it did turn a slow night into a fun girls' night out.

Cross country finishes 32nd in N.E. Championship race

BY NIKITA DUKE

Contributing Sports Reporter

The University of Rhode Island's men's cross country team pulled out a 32nd place finish in the 43-team New England Championship held in Franklin Park in Boston this past Saturday.

Senior Nathan Wigton led the Rams with a 117th place finish, clocking a time of 26:45. Freshman Zachary Seites-Rundlett, who was named the Atlantic-10 Conference's men's Rookie of the Week following his last event, was the second Ram to cross the finish line with a time of 27:07, good for 149th place.

Junior Tim Calcagni placed 165th with a time of 27:21, while junior Corey Coogan followed closely behind in 176th place

with a time of 27:27.

Senior Michael Pezzullo and sophomore Zachary Burkett rounded out the six URI runners with 212th and 246th place finishes, respectively, clocking times of 28:04 and 28:57.

"We didn't run as well as we would've liked to, but there are a lot of positives going forward," Coogan said. "We got to work hard these next few weeks in practice and hopefully it will all come together at the A-10's."

The team had an overall time of 2:16:44.

The Rams will hit the pavement again today when they travel to Warwick, R.I. for the Rothenberg-Brown Invitational, an event they placed third in last year.

URI men's golf takes second place at Connecticut Cup

BY JONATHAN SHIDELER

Contributing Sports Reporter

The University of Rhode Island men's golf team participated in the Connecticut Cup golf tournament in Ellington, Conn. earlier this week. The Rams took second place in the tournament and finished one stroke behind Sacred Heart University with a combined score of 882 for the weekend.

Senior Taylor Fontaine, sophomores Jared Adams and Andrew Fiorenzano, and junior Branden Chicorka all finished in the top 25. Graduate student Michael Hamilton finished 56th and junior David Gosselin finished 71st in a total field of 85.

The Rams were led by Chicorka who finished in second place, the third time he has finished in the top-5 this season. He finished one stroke behind first place finisher Jeffery Merrell from Houston Baptist University.

"Branden is fearless and our best competitor on a team that has a number of good competitors," head coach Gregg Burke said. "He knew the course very well and spearheaded our strategy."

He then added that he expects Chicorka to develop into the best golfer in New England.

"He's that good," Burke said.

Burke attributes having four players finish in the top 25 to the players' efforts, not only to his guidance.

"The credit belongs with the guys, not the coaches," Burke said.

The Rams have finished within the top-10 in their last three events and look to stay consistent in their tournament play. The Rams conclude the fall portion of their schedule this Saturday and Sunday at the Classic at Shelter Harbor in Westerly, R.I.

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'The Walking Dead' hits the Internet in webisode series

BY AUGIE KING
Entertainment Writer

The wait for "The Walking Dead" to return for its second season has been agonizingly long. Left with only six season-one episodes and a year-long wait between seasons, there has certainly been a lot of anticipation building up to the season-two premiere.

To tide fans over during the wait, AMC has released a six-part webisode series showing how the memorable "bicycle girl" zombie, Hannah, from the pilot episode ended up in the state the series' main protagonist, Rick Grimes, found her.

It's not a very compelling storyline, since we already know Hannah, will end up a zombie and her family members are only given minimal development.

The skeleton of the plot is that Hannah and her two children end up at her ex-husband's home, where there are some tensions over how these divorcees should take care of the family.

Aside from a neighbor speculating that the zombie disease is the result of a terrorist attack, there is no new background information that would strengthen the plotline of the main series. Rick, his ex-

wife Lori and the other characters are never mentioned or seen, and the first webisode throws the viewer directly into the action with the zombies already in the process of taking over.

What stands out about this short 15-to-20-minute series is that the quality blood and gore effects have been retained. In fact, I would say they are even more gruesome and creative as a result of director Greg Nicotero not having the constraints of television censorship.

Nicotero is primarily a special effects coordinator, overseeing the effects for the whole series and many other well-known horror movies, and his inexperience as a director is apparent. Nothing in particular is executed poorly on this web series, but, aside from the great blood effects, nothing really stands out as exceptional.

It's also clear that these are amateur actors filling the roles, with some awkward dialogue not helping their cause.

Despite the overall average quality of these six webisodes, they are still fun for fans to watch. The bicycle girl was certainly a character in the show that stuck with me when I saw her feebly crawling toward Rick, and it was neat to find out how she ended up in her horrible situation.

But that's all this series, entitled "Torn Apart," really amounts to: a cool diversion for fans of the show who want every morsel of information and can't wait until this Sunday when season two premieres.

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Wiley

From page 1

statement, "Those of us who knew and worked with Cindy Spencer will remember her as a hard working member of the custodial staff on the Kingston campus and someone who took great pride in the upkeep of her assigned student residence. Cindy cared about her building and those living within it, and for that we will be forever grateful. Please join all of us in the Department of Housing and Residential Life in extending our most sincere condolences to Cindy's husband, David, and her family members and friends."

Updates and a remembrance of Spencer's work with URI are to follow in next week's edition of the Cigar.

Rhody
SPORTS

Women's tennis team defeats PC in makeup

BY JOE ROBERTO
Sports Staff Reporter

Coming off a perfect 7-0 win against Monmouth University, the University of Rhode Island woman's tennis team defeated Providence College Wednesday afternoon, 5-2.

The match was originally scheduled for Sept. 28, but was suspended due to darkness.

"Providence definitely lost their momentum having to come back again," head coach Val Villucci said. "Our girls came out firing and played with a lot of intensity from the beginning. We knew how important the match was to us."

With the win over PC, the Rams improved their record on the season to 4-1. Before the match was suspended, Rhody held a 2-1 lead.

Rhody took two out of the three doubles matches. Senior sisters Kirsten and Tristany Leikem easily defeated their opponents 8-2.

Freshmen teammates Nithila Asokaraj and Karolina Wojciak also won their doubles match, defeating their opponents 8-6.

Kirsten Leikem also won

her singles match, defeating sophomore Maria Clara Bernardez in three sets. She dropped the first, 6-3 but won back-to-back sets, 6-2 and 7-5.

Tristany Leikem followed in her sister's steps by also defeating her singles opponent.

Freshman Karen Ramirez defeated Tristany Leikem 6-1 in the first set but was easily defeated by the Rhody senior in the next two sets 6-1, 6-2.

In the two other victorious single matches, the Rams' Asokaraj won in two sets, 6-2, and 7-5, while freshman Kathleen Uy won in three sets, winning the first 7-5 and the third 6-2.

The Rams will look to continue their hot streak when they travel to New Haven, Conn. for the ITA Regionals. Play will begin next Friday, Oct. 21 and the tournament will end on Sunday Oct. 23.

"The tournament is going to be very difficult, with both doubles and single matches being played," Villucci said. "Our ladies are playing very well so hopefully we have a chance to get good picks and go far in the regionals."

Women's cross country grabs 17th in Saturday's New England Championship

BY NIKITA DUKE
Contributing Sports Reporter

The University of Rhode Island women's cross country team finished 17th in the 39-school New England Championship held in Boston this past Saturday. Led by graduate student Siobhan Breagy, the Rams finished with a total team time of 1:37:53.

Out of a total 269 runners, Breagy finished in 47th place with a time of 18:51. Senior Emily Zaccardi took 89th place with a time of 19:24, with sophomore Frances Brillante follow-

ing close behind in 94th place with a time of 19:28.

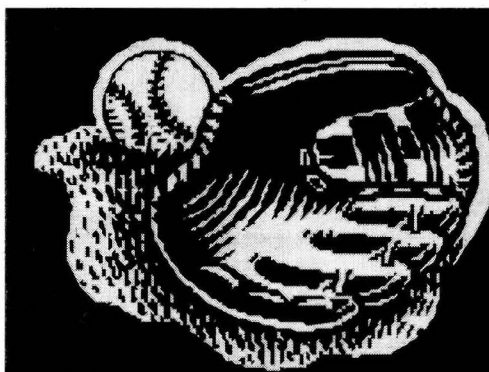
Following the team's last event, Brillante said the team is working on dropping their 5k times in order to secure spots in the top-7. The Rams need those times in order to qualify for the Atlantic-10 Conference meet in North Carolina, set to be held on Oct. 29.

Brillante completed the Saturday race in 19:28, a bit higher than her time at the team's last event, the Ted Owen Invitational. However, this was only Brillante's third event of the season, and of the past three

years.

Freshman Lauren Columbare, two-time A-10 Rookie of the Week this season, placed 112th with a time of 19:39. Sophomore Cassie Olson rounded out the last of the Rams runners, placing 177th in 20:31.

The girls will be back in action today when they travel to Warwick, R.I. to compete in the Rothenberg-Brown Invitational. Last year, the Rams placed third overall against seven teams at the tournament.



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The Bottom Line: Rhody sports strategy with Athletic Director Thorr Bjorn

BY MIKE ABELSON
Sports Staff Reporter

Last week I was able to sit down with University of Rhode Island Athletic Director Thorr Bjorn and discuss the state of Rhody athletics.

Here are some of the highlights.

Mike Abelson: What exactly is the athletic department's "strategic five-year plan?"

Thorr Bjorn: After spending a few years here and really getting a good understanding of what we're trying to accomplish and sort of knowing that there were a few things we needed to fix [immediately]. It got to the point that we needed to look towards the future. What's our roadmap going to look like for the next five years?

We had a lot of support from the folks around the university to start laying out how we want to evaluate ourselves. We came up with some core ideas and drilled down pretty deep in terms of how we're going to accomplish those goals. I'm really excited about the way it came out. It is a living, breathing document. It

needs to be flexible.

MA: How were you able to get Virginia Tech to come to the Ryan Center this winter?

TB: They needed a game. Sometimes you get lucky. To have a team like Virginia Tech willing to come to the Ryan Center; I think we played them really well down there a couple of years ago [in the 2010 NIT quarterfinal]. They know it's going to be a good game for them. It just sort of worked out.

MA: The basketball team is very young this season. What's your outlook of the upcoming season?

TB: I'm getting a game program for the first three or four games. I'm going to have to because we have so many young players. It's really the first time since I've been here that it is truly a young team.

MA: The NCAA Women's East Regional is coming to Kingston in March. How is everything progressing with preparations for that?

TB: Everything's going very well for that. We expect

that one to be sold out hopefully before the end of the calendar year. I think it'll be great for our women's basketball program. It's going to bring a lot of great programs here. I'm very confident we'll do a first-class job in hosting that.

MA: It's been a tough year for the football team so far. What are your thoughts on the first half of the season?

TB: Every game's a challenge. I'm still very excited and optimistic about this year. I believe whole-heartedly in Coach Trainer and his staff and I think the seniors we have on this team are not only great people but great players.

MA: Both soccer teams have shown a marked improvement since last year. It must be nice to see both programs on the rebound.

TB: I think men's and women's soccer are sports that we need to return to being perennial powers in the Atlantic-10. I think we can do that. I like what [women's coach] Needham is doing. I think he's really going to do a good job in getting us back on

track there. I don't think we've ever won an A-10 championship in women's soccer, but I think under his guidance we'll get there.

[Men's coach] John O'Conner inherited a good program. We struggled for a couple of years, but we have a great opportunity to get that going again. With the start of the conference season, there is another chance for us to do something special.

MA: Coach Schneck has the volleyball team going in the right direction.

TB: They're doing well. The A-10 is very good in volleyball. I think it's going to be fun. It's a wonderful group of young people that compete. I just wish that more people came out and supported them. It's a fast moving game and it's a lot of fun.

MA: Cross-country continues to produce good results. How is it to be consistently competitive every year for both the men and women?

TB: We have great coaches in John Copeland and Lauren Fite. Cross-country is a great

kickoff to the winter track season where we've had great success. When I think about the programs that have had success here, track is at the top of the list.

MA: With the new courts the women's tennis team has been very successful.

TB: Having those tennis courts have been really fun for us. When we think about some of our facility upgrades over the years there have been a lot of good things.

